

TERRITORY OF GUAM

Driver's Handbook



Department of
Revenue and Taxation
Motor Vehicle Division

FOREWORD

This booklet has been prepared to assist you in passing the required written test given prior to your obtaining a Guam Driver's License. The main purpose of driver-examining is to determine whether an applicant for licensing has the knowledge and skills needed for the safe operation of a motor vehicle. When the driver successfully passes the examination, this means he meets established standards of motor vehicle operation on Guam for the type of license applied for.

However, we would be failing in our obligation to you if that was all we offered for there is a great deal more to driving than being able to make a proper left turn. Therefore, we have added life-saving hints that will be useful to the experienced driver as well as the beginner. This booklet is not only a guide to passing the driver's test, it is also a guide to Safe Driving.

YOUR VEHICLE: A BENEFIT or CAUSE of FATALITY

The car has become a necessity in our modern society, but must its benefits mean that an average of 30 people shall die each year on Guam's roads? (Statistics over the past 4 years) The DRIVER, not the car, is RESPONSIBLE for most of the deaths on our highways. Please remember this when you are studying this book and while you are driving.

SAFETY BELTS SAVE LIVES

One of the most cost-effective vehicle safety device yet invented is probably sitting in your car right now... your Safety Belt. Sure, its a little restrictive at times, and you have to remember to put it on, but the benefits of its use far outnumber the drawbacks. In a study by the Volvo Co. involving 28,000 accident cases, no deaths occurred at speeds under 60 mph when the lap belt and shoulder harness were used.

On Guam, your car is one of over 110,800 registered vehicles. If there are 254 linear miles of roadway, that averages out to more than 436 linear mile on our island! Each year about 4,306 accidents occur, resulting in 1,082 injuries. This means that 1 out of every 23 people will be involved in an accident each year, and unfortunately, someone dies in a traffic accident once every eleven days.

The potential for saving the lives of you and your passengers takes only 5 seconds the time it takes to buckle up - and those five seconds can be worth a lifetime!

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Section I**GUAM DRIVER'S LICENSE****1. THE DRIVING PRIVILEGE**

Driving a motor vehicle on public streets and highways is a privilege granted by the Territory according to the ruling of the courts. It is not a right.

Before the Territory can issue a permit to drive, you must show that you have the necessary skill. The law states that your ability to drive must be tested and proved by an examination given by the Territory.

A driver's license is evidence that the Territory has granted you the privilege of driving on the public roadways within its boundaries. It shows that the Territory has judged it safe to grant the driving privilege to you. Every driver must be licensed and must carry his valid license with him at all times while driving on Guam.

If you abuse the privilege, it may be taken away from you by legal means for various periods of time, or revoked permanently under some circumstances.

2. EXCEPTIONS to Who Needs a License

- Active duty military personnel stationed on Guam are not required to get a Guam license as long as their license from their home state is valid, but is advisable.
- A valid driver's license from one of the 50 U.S. States or territories may be used for up to 30 days after arrival on Guam.
- Active duty military personnel operating a military or Federal Government vehicle are not required to have a Guam license while operating such a vehicle.
- Japanese licenses are valid for 30 days on Guam provided the holder remains a tourist.

3. ELIGIBILITY - Age and Other Requirements

A person over 16 years of age who can pass the examinations and meet the requirements of mental and physical ability is entitled to consideration for a Guam driver's license.

a. Age Requirements for Minors

For purposes of obtaining a Guam Driver's license minors are persons

under 18 years of age. Applicants under 18 must have a parent or legal guardian sign the application form prior to taking the examination.

b. Instruction Permits

Before anyone can drive well, he needs to have a good deal of actual driving practice. The law, therefore, provides for the issuance of an instruction permit which allows a person qualified for a license to by age and other conditions to drive on public streets and highways when accompanied by a fully licensed driver. A person must be at least 15 years 9 months of age to apply for an instruction permit. Holders of instruction permits do not have the right to drive alone, not even to an office of the Department of Motor Vehicles for the purpose of taking an examination. They must always be accompanied by a licensed driver when they are driving.

4. TYPES of LICENSES

- a. Chauffeurs' Licenses** are issued to those people who are employed by a company for the purpose of driving and who receive compensation therefrom.
- b. Taxi Licenses** are issued to persons who are operating a taxi for the purpose of compensation. All persons applying for a taxi license are required to be familiar with Section 11101 of Title 16 Guam Code Annotated.
- c. Operator's Licenses** are issued for normal use of a four-wheel vehicle.
- d. Motorcycle Licenses** are required for all military and civilians who intend to operate a motorcycle on the roads of Guam. To receive a motorcycle license, you must take a written exam and a road test to ascertain whether you have the knowledge and practical experience to operate a motorcycle. Guam law requires use of an approved, securely fastened safety helmet for both driver and passenger. In addition, it is recommended that the headlight be used during all driving, both day and night.

5. REGULAR LICENSES

When you receive your regular license, inspect it carefully to be sure the information on it is correct. It should contain your true full name, date of birth, a brief personal description, your signature, and in the upper left hand corner, the date when it expires. You should also note whether any driving restriction has been marked on the reverse side of your license.

6. APPLYING FOR YOUR LICENSE

*Written Test **

When you apply for a license, you will need to appear in person before a driver's license examiner.

a. Information and Identification

In filling out your application, the law declares that you must give true statements about yourself. You will be asked to certify whether you have ever:

1. Applied for a license under any other name.
2. Had your driving privilege or license cancelled, refused, suspended, or revoked (taken away for any reason).
3. Had been afflicted with nervous breakdown, mental illness, or insanity.
4. Had fainting spells, dizzy spells, apoplexy (stroke), epilepsy, paralysis, or any other disease or disability which might affect your ability to operate a motor vehicle safely.

You must give your full name, address, date of birth, marital status, height, weight and the color of your eyes and hair. You will be asked to state whether you have ever operated a motor vehicle and for how long, and what type of motor vehicle or combination of motor vehicles you desire to operate. If you have had a Guam Driver's License previously, you will be asked to note the number and year it was issued. If you have been licensed in any state, indicate this fact and give the year when you were licensed. You must sign the application with your regular signature and present this license application to an examiner.

- * Applicant must have one • *Valid Passport* • *Firearms I.D.* • *Military I.D.* • *Guam I.D.* • *Naturalization Certificate* • *Alien Registration Card* • *U.S. Mainland I.D. with photo.*

Driver's Education Requirements

Applicant is required to complete a certified Driver's Educational class consisting of :

- a. Forty (40) hours of training, with thirty-two (32) classroom hours and eight

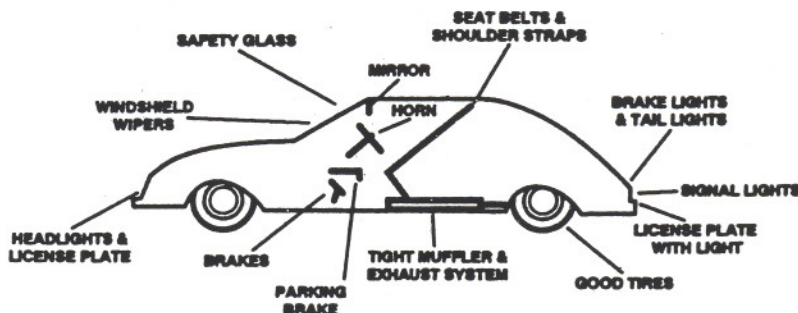
(8) hours in-car.

- b. Such training be applicable to all minors (15 years 9 Months) and to those adults who are applying for a "first time" driver's license.
- c. Driver's Educational School (U.S.)
- d. Original certification must be presented upon scheduling for a written or road examination.

7. YOUR EXAMINATION for a LICENSE

Your examination for a driver's license may include the following:

- An eye test, given to determine whether or not you can see well enough to drive safely. If you need glasses to pass this test, your license may require you to always wear glasses while driving.
- A road sign test, given to determine whether you know what the law requires when you are driving a vehicle.
- A test of your ability to read simple English, such as is used in highway traffic and directional signs.
- A driving test, to determine whether you can drive properly and safely.



a. THE DRIVING TEST

In the driving test, the examiner will ask you to show your ability to control a motor vehicle. In addition, he will observe how well you check your vehicle for proper mechanical operations - wipers, lights, and mirror adjustments - prior to operation on a public highway. Any motor vehicle used for a driving examination must meet all Guam Motor Vehicle Registration and safety law requirement. Your car should have the following equipment working and in proper adjustment:

He will ask you to drive some distance in traffic where you will meet the usual conditions offered by such driving. Special driving problems may be presented for your solution. They will not be very complicated problems, but will serve as examples of traffic situations you may meet at any time. The test is simply a proof of your ability to drive by practical demonstration. While being asked to demonstrate your knowledge of the arm signals, you may use your electric turn indicators during the test.

- Start your car from the curb and look for passing cars. He will note whether you give a good signal and whether you wait to enter the stream of traffic until it is safe to do so.
- Keep proper control of your car while using the gas pedal, brake, and other controls as you will be observed on how well you operate.
- Drive in the proper place on the street or highway. The examiner will note whether you stay in the proper lane, change lanes carefully and with the proper signal, and follow other vehicles at a safe distance.
- Drive through blind or crowded road crossings. He will note whether you pay proper attention to signs and signals, right-of-way, pedestrians, and motor vehicle traffic.
- Turn your car. He will note whether you turn from the proper lane and turn into the proper lane, giving a good signal at the required distance before turning, and whether you turn too wide or too sharp.
- Stop your car, noting whether you stop smoothly, stop at the proper place, give a good signal, or whether you can stop quickly and safely in an emergency.
- Control your car while backing in a straight line or in offset backing (the maneuver most often used to park a vehicle parallel to a curb).
- Observe proper speed, giving enough attention to the number and speed of nearby cars, people crossing the street or highway, condition of the highway, condition of the weather and amount of light, and the distance you can see under the conditions existing at the time.
- Keep a safe distance in following and passing cars, in passing people walking on the highway, and when driving through intersections and when parking.
- Give attention to the rights of others.
- Attend the job of driving.

The driving test will cover several blocks. Follow the directions of the examiner who rides with you. He will play no tricks on you and will not ask you to do anything against the law. The examiner will answer any questions on proper driving techniques before or after the driving test. Do not converse unnecessarily with him during the test, as this may interfere with your understanding of instructions or his scoring of your driving skill. At the end of the test, the examiner will show you a standard score sheet which he will be glad to discuss with you.

b. DISCONTINUING the DRIVING TEST - An Emergency Safety Measure

Every person taking a driving test should be informed of a necessary safety rule:

The test will be immediately discontinued and counted as a failure if the applicant suffers a collision while driving: the vehicle striking another car, striking a pedestrian, or striking a fixed object. An improper driving action that causes a collision or near-collision for vehicles in the immediate vicinity, even though the driving test vehicle is not involved in the damage or contact, will also cause the ending of the test.

The same immediate action to end the driving test will be taken by the examiner if the applicant does any of the following:

- Makes it necessary for another driver to exercise unusual expertness to prevent a collision or for a pedestrian to dodge in order to avoid being struck.
- Makes it necessary for the examiner to come to his aid in order to control the vehicle.
- Stalls the car within a busy intersection because of inexperience or lack of skill.
- Drive two wheels over the curb or onto the sidewalk.
- Commits any driving fault, either of skill or excessive caution, which causes immediate danger to any person or property.
- Violates flagrantly any traffic law for which a driver might be arrested.
- Refuses to try any maneuver required by the examiner.
- Fails repeatedly to follow instructions.

c. VALID PERIOD of the DRIVER'S LICENSE

Your driver's license is good for a period of three years. The expiration date will fall on your birthday of the third year. You are then required to renew your application for a Driver's License.

Fee for Driver's Licenses and Taxi Identification Card:

• Operator	(A)	\$5.00
• Chauffeur	(B) (G) (H)	5.00
• Chauffeur	(C)	5.00
• Chauffeur	(D)	5.00
• Chauffeur	(I)	5.00
• Motorcycle	(F)	5.00
• Taxi	(E)	3.50
• Taxi Identification		25.00
• Duplicate License		1.00
• Instruction permits		FREE

LOSS of Driver's License:

In the event that a Driver's License or Instruction Permit is lost, destroyed, or mutilated, the licensee or permittee may obtain a duplicate from the Department of Revenue and Taxation by presenting an Official Identification to the examiner. Any person who loses a license or permit and thereunder finds the original, must immediately surrender such original license to the Department of Revenue and Taxation at the Driver's Examination Branch.

INSTRUCTION PERMITS for 15 years 9 months of age: (alternative provision) successfully completed the written driver's license examination, a permit which shall be valid until such person reaches his sixteenth (16th) birthday, so long as he is accompanied by a licensed parent or guardian while operating a motor vehicle.

SAFE DRIVING TIPS

Be a Defensive Driver

A defensive driver is one who is always on the alert for the mistakes of

others. "Expect the Unexpected." Remember you are sharing the road with all kinds of drivers. By anticipating another's error, you may avoid an accident. It is better to give up the right-of-way than to suffer an accident with property damage, injury, or death resulting. On the highways we must all be "Our Brother's Keeper."

Watch for Danger

- A car suddenly slows down for no apparent reason. (Is there something in the road? Is he going to turn left?)
- A ball rolls into the street. (Will it be followed by a running child?)
- The front wheels of a parked car move, or smoke comes out of its exhaust (Will it pull out in front of you?)
- A car has just stopped at the curb. (Will the driver suddenly open his door in the path of your vehicle?)
- An oncoming car appears to be weaving from side to side. (Is the driver drunk or asleep?)
- A car behind you is impatiently "riding your bumper." (Will he be able to stop if you stop? Will he suddenly dart out to pass you?)

If You Wear Glasses or Sun Glasses:

If you are required to wear eye glasses while driving as per instruction on your driver's license, it is good practice to have a spare pair with you whenever you drive. Any accidental braking or damage to them rendering your glasses unusable, would create a hazardous situation.

A very important safety principle is don't use tinted prescription glasses or dark sunvisor types as daylight fades or after dark. In dusk or darkness they can reduce your distance vision drastically and be very hazardous. Beware of tinted glasses that disguise the actual color of signs and traffic lights; such lenses have caused serious accidents by misleading the driver.

NEVER Drive When:

- You are feeling Sick, Tired, Sleepy, Angry or Emotionally Upset.
- Under Sedatives or hazardous **DRUGS** and if you've had even **ONE DRINK!**

Section II**TRAFFIC LAWS - RULES of the ROAD****The Driver's Observance of the Law****1. COMPLIANCE with TRAFFIC LAWS and ORDINANCES**

Drivers are required by law to comply with Territory traffic laws as set forth in the Guam Vehicle Code. Exceptions may arise when a traffic officer or policeman gives orders that conflict with traffic laws or ordinances. In such cases, the officer's directions must be complied with.

2. COMPLIANCE with ORDERS of TRAFFIC and POLICE OFFICERS and FIREMEN

Any traffic direction, or signal by a traffic or police officer or a fireman on duty must be complied with. To meet a special situation or emergency, an officer may give orders that conflict with traffic laws or ordinances. In such cases, the officer's orders have priority.

3. COMPLIANCE with OFFICIAL SIGNS, SIGNALS, and MARKINGS

Directions, controls, and limits indicated by all official traffic signs, signals, and markings must be observed. Exceptions may arise when an officer gives directions to meet a special situation or emergency. In such cases, the officer's orders must be complied.

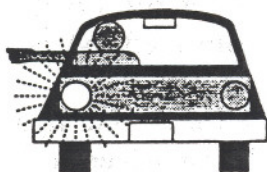
THE DRIVER'S SIGNAL

Every driver must give signals to tell other drivers on the road when he intends to change the direction in which his vehicle is moving or to reduce his speed or stop. These signals are described in the law. Signals may be given by hand-and-arm motion or by a signal light on the vehicle.

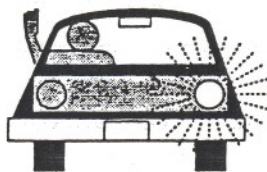
If you signal with flashing vehicle signal lights, be sure the signal does not continue to flash after you have completed your turn. When you plan a series of driving changes, such as a stop for a traffic light or stop sign followed by a right turn, you should always signal first for the action you intend to take first. Thus, in the situation mentioned above you would signal first for a stop; come to a full stop; then signal for the right turn.

At night, when the hand-and-arm signal cannot be seen, it is more efficient to use the vehicle signal lights. Although the law permits use of such signals during daylight, it is a wise precaution to use the hand-and-arm signals when bright sunlight may make it hard to see lights.

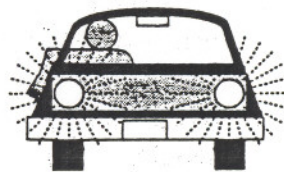
ARM SIGNALS for STOP and TURNS



LEFT TURN



RIGHT TURN



STOP or SLOW

STARTING YOUR VEHICLE

In starting from a parking place at the curb, first look for cars approaching from the rear, then give the proper signal. Pull out slowly. Remember, you do not have the right-of-way.

In starting from a garage or driveway, be sure to watch for approaching vehicles and pedestrians. Move cautiously to join the traffic at a suitable speed.

If your starting position requires backing, it may be necessary to inspect what is behind your vehicle very carefully before you begin to move it. If necessary, leave the car to look behind it. Then keep the space behind you well in view through your mirrors and windows.

STOPPING AND PARKING

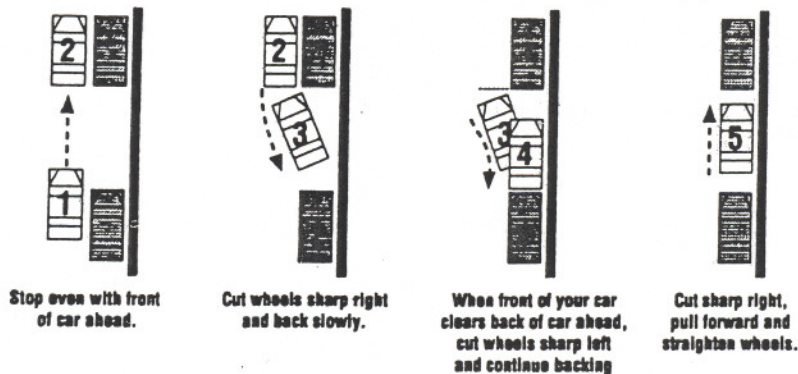
- Always give a clear signal for slowing and stopping before you begin to park your car.
- Never leave your car until you have stopped the engine and set the parking brake.
- Driving in traffic often requires the ability to park your car parallel to a curb. The method for this at a right-hand curb is explained below:

1. Select a space large enough for your car. Stop beside and about a foot away from the vehicle behind which you want to park.
 2. Back up slowly. When you are about two feet back, begin turning your wheel to the right. Then turn all the way, still backing slowly. Watch for traffic and pedestrians. Keep on backing until your car is at a 45 degree angle with the street - then stop. Check your angle: this is the secret to successful parallel parking.
 3. Straighten your wheels and back up until your front bumper is even with the rear bumper of the car ahead. Turn your wheel sharply left and move back slowly.
 4. Keep backing until your wheels almost touch the curb. Your right wheel should be approximately six inches from the curb. Straighten your wheels and move up to the center of the space. Set your parking brake.
- ***The Legal Parking Position is with the right front and rear wheels of the vehicle within 18 inches of the curb.***
 - When you have to stop on a highway, be sure to park with all four wheels off the pavement if possible. If you cannot park off the roadway, leave an unobstructed width of highway opposite your car. Your parked car should be visible 200 feet in each direction.

PARKING RESTRICTIONS

When angle parking is not clearly designated, a vehicle must be parked parallel to the curb, heading in the direction of the traffic. When parallel parked, the vehicle's right wheels shall be within 18 inches of the curb or edge of the street, unless a different system of parallel parking is clearly indicated by official traffic signs or markers. Always remove your keys from the ignition after parking your vehicle.

Steps in Parallel Parking



Front and rear bumper shall not be closer than two feet from the other vehicles when in parked position, unless the street is otherwise marked.

Do not stop, park or leave your car in any of the following places:

- a. Within an intersection (except when local ordinance permits, next to curb.)
- b. On a sidewalk or crosswalk.
- c. Between a safety zone and a curb, or in a space along the curb where signs or curb markings prohibit parking or standing your vehicle.
- d. Closer than 15 feet from 1. the driveway entrance of a fire station; 2. a fire hydrant; 3. an intersection with no curbs.
- e. In front of a public or private driveway. Local authorities may, by ordinance, permit buses or taxicabs to load and unload passengers at such places.
- f. Beside or opposite any street or highway excavation or obstruction when such stopping or parking would obstruct traffic.
- g. On the roadway side of any car parked at the curb or edge of a highway. (Double parking)
- h. Within 30 feet of the approach to any official flashing signal, stop sign, or traffic signal located at the of the highway.
- i. On any Guam Beach. No vehicle is allowed to park on beaches except for a short time while loading or unloading fishing or boating equipment. (Maximum fine: \$100.00)

THE RIGHT-OF-WAY RULES ARE:

- a. At intersections without traffic control devices, such as STOP or YIELD signs or Traffic Control Signs:
 - The first vehicle in the intersection has the right to go ahead. Keep in mind , however, that it is the responsibility of all drivers to yield the right of way. When two vehicles enter an intersection from different streets or highways at the same time, the vehicle on the left shall yield the right-of-way to the vehicle on the right. (Section 3325.)
- b. At Through Highways with STOP signs:
 - After you have stopped for a STOP sign, let any cars that are within the intersection (or approaching so closely that they may hit you)

pass before you enter the through highway. On a divided highway, consider the danger of approaching cars on the further roadway before crossing it. Continue to yield the right of way at a stop sign until such time as you can proceed with reasonable safety.

- All vehicle on any secondary road which intersects with a through highway must Stop before entering or crossing the through highway, even if no official stop sign is posted. If you are on the through highway and you see a vehicle some distance ahead that is crossing or about to cross after it has stopped at a stop sign, you must slow down and allow the vehicle to proceed (Section 3326).

c. Left Turns

When you approach an intersection, give the proper signal for at least 100 feet before turning. The law requires you to wait until it is safe for you to complete your turn. You must give the right-of-way to all cars approaching from the opposite direction on the same roadway close enough to be dangerous, and you may make the turn only when it is safe to do so. These rules are especially important on divided highways with several lanes, where you must consider the danger of approaching cars in each lane while turning. These rules also apply to left turns into an alley, private road or property, or driveway (Section 3321).

d. Private Driveways:

When you enter a street or highway from a driveway, alley, or from private property, you must not interfere with the safe operation of cars approaching from either direction. You must wait to enter the highway until it is safe to do so (Section 3327). When it can be done safely, you may cross a solid white or yellow line in the middle of the roadway into an alley or driveway. You may lawfully make a left turn across such a solid line for either of these maneuvers after you have made certain that no approaching vehicle is an immediate hazard.

e. Emergency Vehicles:

Upon the approach of an authorized emergency vehicle (ambulance, police, fire equipment, civil defense, explosives ordinance, etc.) that is sounding a siren and/or displaying flashing red or blue lights, all highway users must yield the right of way, as stated in the Motor Vehicle Code of

Guam (Section 3333).

1. The operators of all other vehicles shall yield the right-of-way and shall immediately drive to a position parallel to, and as close as possible to, the right-hand edge or curb of the highway clear of any intersection and thereupon stop and remain in such position until such authorized emergency vehicle has passed, except when otherwise directed by a police officer.
2. All pedestrians upon the highway shall remain in a place of safety until such authorized emergency vehicle has passed, except when otherwise directed by a police officer.

f. Crosswalks:

Pedestrians have the right-of-way within any marked crosswalk and at intersections and where streets join at approximate right angles, whether or not the crosswalks are marked by painted white lines (Section 3329).

HOW TO MAKE TURNS

a. Rules for Left and Right Turns:

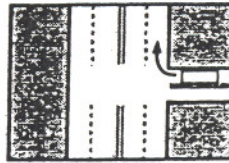
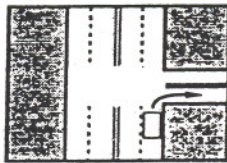
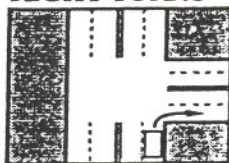
Keep your car in the proper lane during all types of turns.

Signal for 100 feet before turning. You may need to signal for a longer distance if you must change lanes to make the turn properly.

You may not legally turn or move to the right or to the left on a roadway unless such a movement can be made with reasonable safety, and until you have given the appropriate signal.

On right turns, stay within the right-hand lane. Do not turn wide. On left turns, avoid cutting the corners.

b. RIGHT TURNS

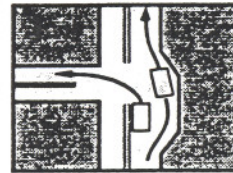
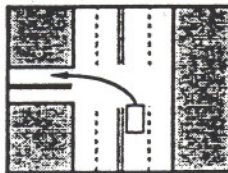
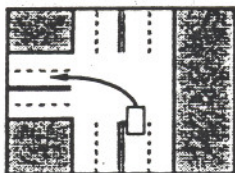


B. Right Turns

Unless signs or pavement markings clearly permit a right turn from more than one lane, the turn must be made (after signalling for 100 feet) from the extreme right-hand lane. It must be completed in the extreme right-hand lane you are entering.

- Right turn Against a Red Light:
 - After you have come to full stop for a red traffic light signal and have made sure that traffic permits, you may turn right against the red signal if no posted sign prohibits such a turn, provided you are in the extreme right-hand lane.

c. LEFT TURNS



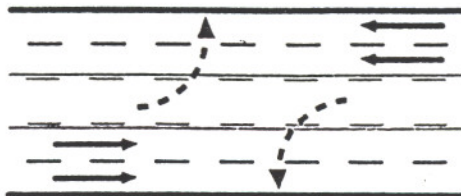
Several types of left turns are shown in the above diagrams. General rules for left turns that apply in all cases are these:

1. To start your left turn, get as close as possible to the left-hand edge of the extreme left-hand or portion of the roadway permitted to vehicles travelling in your direction on the street you wish to leave, unless signs or pavement markings indicate that left turns are permitted unless a left-turn lane is present.
2. Wait and watch at the turning point until it is safe for you to complete your turn.
3. Guide your car into the lane closest to the left that is proper for vehicles travelling in your direction in the roadway you are entering.

d. LANE CHANGING

(Section 3314) states that a vehicle shall be driven as nearly as practical entirely within a single lane and shall not be moved from such lane until the driver has first ascertained that such movement can be made with safety. Never change lanes within an intersection.

USE of the CENTER LANE



An uneven number of traffic lanes is a standardized roadway design on Guam. Historically, this middle lane has been called Suicide Lane, Kamikaze Run, etc... due to the unsafe and often illegal driving practiced here. It is actually a LEFT TURN lane and is only for turning left into or out of traffic. This lane is not to be used for passing and is not a safety zone for pedestrians. It is not only illegal to use the center lane for a walkway, it is positively suicidal.

Some defensive driving tips for using the middle lane:

- If there is a center lane, it must be used for all left turns.
- Always signal your intent to turn left and don't turn your wheels until it is safe to execute the full turn, because if you're hit from behind or in front, the turn of your wheels will send you directly into the oncoming traffic.
- Watch very carefully before entering the middle lane and before the turning out of it; look for cars coming up behind you or planning to turn in front of you into the lane.

e. U-TURNS

The U-Turn is described by law as a turn to proceed in the opposite direction. You may NOT make a U-Turn (turn around to go back the way you came):

1. On a curve or near the crest of a grade (hill) where your car cannot be

seen for 200 feet in either direction.

2. At any intersection where a traffic signal controls the movement of vehicles, including intersections where green arrows control the flow, unless a sign specifically says a U-Turn may be made.
3. Where there are cars so near that they may hit you.
4. Where there are signs prohibiting U-Turns.
5. In front of the driveway entrance or approach to a fire station. Never use a fire station driveway for the purpose of driving around.
6. In a business district, except through a specifically provided opening for U-Turns at some intersections and divided roadways.

You may make a U-Turn in the middle of the block in a residential district if there are no cars coming toward you from either direction so close as to be dangerous (or within 100 feet).

Provided all other conditions such as signs, signals, the nature of the district or the adjacent intersections are such as to make U-Turns lawful, a driver may cross a solid white or yellow line to make a U-Turn if the turn can be made safely.

SUGGESTION: *When in doubt, drive around the block!*

SPEED LAWS

- a. **Basic Speed Law:** Under the Guam law, you must never drive faster than is safe. This is what the law says:

No person shall drive a vehicle upon a highway at a speed greater than is reasonable or prudent have due regard for weather, visibility, the traffic in, and the surface and width of the highway and in no event at a speed which endangers the safety of persons or property (Section 3301).

This is called the "Basic Speed Law". This law does not set an exact limit in miles per hour at which you may drive. The "Basic" law requires that you consider all conditions that may affect your driving. These include the number and speed of other cars on the roadway; the presence of pedestrians; the surface of the road - whether smooth or rough, wet or dry, wide or narrow; how far ahead you can see in existing light conditions; and such things as rain, fog, wind, smoke, dust and inclement weather. To meet the requirement of this law, maintain the speed of the flow of traffic in your direction, providing it does not exceed the speed limit.

GUAM ROAD CONDITIONS

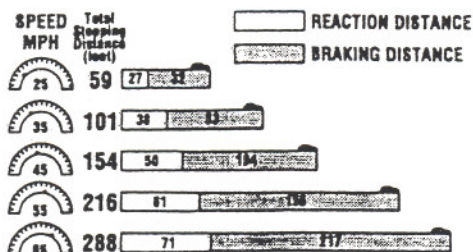
The roads on Guam are built with coral aggregate and are extremely slippery - a hazard increased by wetness. There are several factors that cause this condition: the oil rich aggregate allows oil to rise to the top of the road surface and the coral base polishes easily to provide a smooth surface where algae grows easily in our humid climate. These factors, added to the frequent rain showers, combine to make our roads, at times, quite treacherous.

During heavier rains, it's advisable to turn on your headlights for increased visibility. Scan ahead for large puddles and slow down when you go through the water. Most vehicles lack protection on the underside and large quantities of water splashed up in the undercarriage can soak wiring, brake linings and other essential parts. Failure to negotiate large puddles with caution can result in a stall or in a brake failure or malfunction.

Keep your car under control and your brakes in excellent condition. Always allow a safe distance between your car and any other car or person, so that you can make a smooth stop. Jerky stops often cause dangerous skidding. In the event you do find yourself skidding, DON'T SLAM on your brakes. Instead, take your foot off the accelerator and gently turn your wheels in the direction of the skid. Braking or oversteering to correct may end up in another skid and locked brakes. Once the car straightens up, gently brake to a stop.

In estimating stopping distance, you need to allow for your own reaction time and for braking distance. In following another vehicle, you should allow at least 1 car length for every 10 mph of speed. The road surface condition figures greatly in your stopping efficiency.

AVERAGE STOPPING DISTANCE



NOTE: These figures are based on actual tests of cars with brakes in excellent condition and on dry, level, hard surfaces.

At 50 miles per hour, a car with good brakes needs at least 200 feet of dry road in which to stop, but under wet conditions, 3 to 12 times as much distance is needed, making such high speeds extremely dangerous. To keep from skidding on wet, slippery streets, drive slowly. Allow more distance between your car and others. Apply your brakes or gas pedal slowly and easily so that your starts and stops will be smooth.

b. Speed Limits

Additional speed laws do not set definite speed limits that are generally posted on signs by the road. Some indicate absolute limits and others indicate the maximum safe speed for that area. The MAXIMUM speed on Guam is 35 mph and in no case may you exceed this limit, with the exception of Routes 1, 8, 10 which is 45mph.

PASSING AND CLEARING

Passing on the Right

You may pass to the right, if conditions appear safe, under these conditions:

- a. When the driver of the other vehicle is making or is about to make a left turn. Never pass to the left of any vehicle signalling for a left-turn (Section 3317).
- b. In a business or residential district where the pavement is wide enough for two or more lanes of cars moving in your direction of travel. You may pass on the right or left in this case, provided conditions are safe, but never drive off the paved or main travelled part of the roadway. There are many locations on Guam's roadways where you find exceptionally wide paved shoulder lanes. The legally travelled portion of the roadway ends where the solid white lines on your right begins. The shoulder lane is NOT for passing - you may hit bicycles, pedestrians, animals, or disable vehicles pulled off the road for repairs.

Before moving to the left or right of the highway, give a signal to tell any driver ahead or behind you that you are going to change position. Never make the change until you're sure the lane is clear. Don't rely on rear-view mirrors alone. Turn your head both ways and make sure no car is about to pass you! Never pass to the right on a two-lane highway at an intersection. This type of passing is normally prohibited by "NO PASSING" signs.

Passing on the Left and Restrictions, including Signs, Lines and Lanes

Whenever you wish to pass a vehicle on the left, remember these rules:

1. Where a highway is divided by a solid white or yellow line, no vehicle may cross over or drive to the left of the solid line, except for turning left at an intersection or into or out of a driveway of alley, or while a U-Turn if lawfully allowed or where signs authorize the use of off-center traffic lanes (Section 3314).
2. Where there is a solid white or yellow line alongside a broken line you may pass if the broken line is nearest your side of the road (1). If the solid line is on your side, you must not pass (2).
3. Where there is only a broken line separating the lanes, cars going in both directions may pass if the way ahead is clear.



Make sure there is time to pass before changing lanes to do so. Allow plenty of time to get back on the right side of the roadway to avoid being dangerously close to oncoming traffic. Never get closer than 100 feet to an oncoming vehicle (Section 3314).

In passing at a safe distance to the left, do not return to the right lane until you are sure that you are safely out of the way of the vehicle in your rear-view mirror, thus avoiding "Cutting In".

NOTE: The car being passed is required to maintain the same rate of speed unless presented with an emergency situation where he may be required to slow down to prevent an accident.

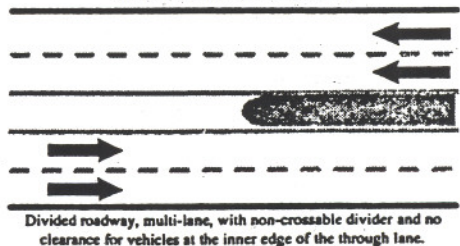
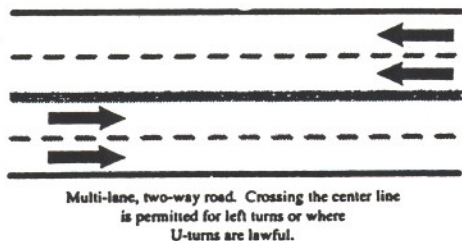
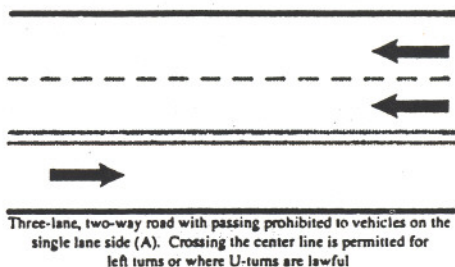
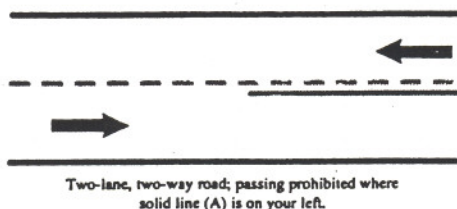
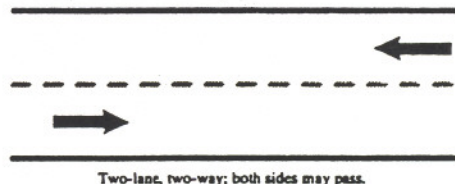
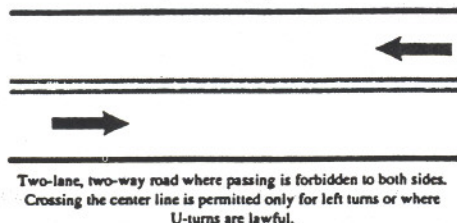
PAVEMENT MARKINGS

Pavement markers should indicate to the driver:

1. Where on the roadway he should be driving.
2. Where his visibility ahead is limited and passing is restricted.
3. Where he can expect traffic in the adjacent lane to be going in the opposite direction.
4. Where he may safely wait for an opportunity to make a left turn.

The color of the lines tells the motorist instantly whether he is on a one-way or two-way road: yellow lines are used to divide roads with two-way traffic; white lines divide lanes or roadways where the traffic is going in the same direction. On Guam, small reflective markers are used more than paint to indicate these pavement markings, since paint doesn't last long.

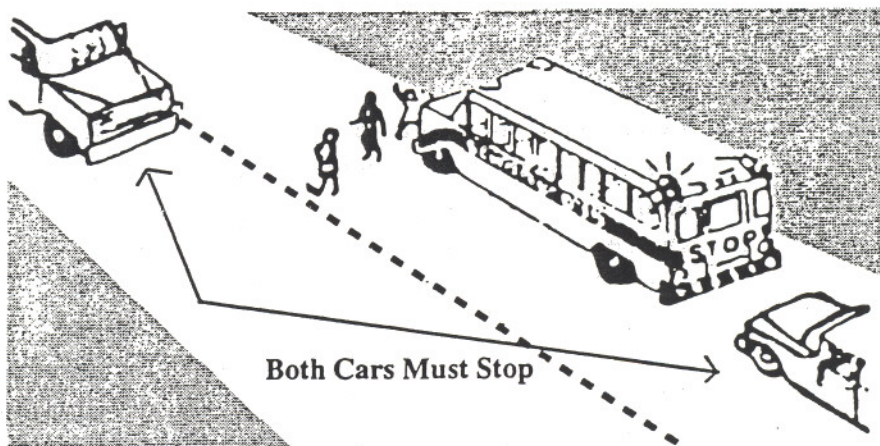
(YELLOW LINES APPEAR BLACK.)



SCHOOL BUSES

The Motor Vehicle Code of Guam expressly requires that traffic in all directions must come to a complete stop when approaching a school bus that is stopped for the purpose of taking on or discharging students, **WHETHER OR NOT ANY STUDENTS ARE CROSSING THE ROAD**. School buses must display their red, four-way flashing signal lights as well as the Stop-arm located on the driver's side of the vehicle. Even on multi-lane highways when the bus is on the other side of the road, you must stop until the Stop-arm is retracted and the bus resumes motion, unless the bus driver signals you to proceed.

SCHOOL BUSES



MISCELLANEOUS DRIVING RULES

- a. Backing must always be done carefully. Do not rely upon a mirror to show you where you are going (Section 3321).
- b. You must not drive a car so loaded either with property or persons that you cannot see ahead, behind or to the sides or so loaded that you cannot control your vehicle (Section 3302). Sticker, signs, posters, etc. are not permitted on a car's windshield, side or rear windows with two exceptions:
 1. In a seven inch square in the lower corner of the windshield on the side away from the driver.
 2. Upon the side windows behind the driver in a position where they will not obstruct his clear view.
- c. No object or material may be placed in or upon a vehicle so that it obstruct or reduces the driver's clear view through the windshield area, hanging from above, or elsewhere except those permitted as listed above.
- d. It is unlawful for anyone to ride on any part of your vehicle that is not intended for the use of passengers, such as the hood or other outside parts of the car. It is suggested that if you must carry passengers in the back of a pick-up truck, they should sit firmly on the deck against the cab or against the tailgate, preferably in installed seats with seatbelts.
- e. Always keep alert for pedestrians and bicyclists in your view of the road.

You should give them room to try to anticipate their movements. Don't let any cyclist hang onto a car.

- f. Horns should be used only when it's reasonable and necessary for safe operation.
- g. If you smoke, use an ashtray in your car. It is illegal to throw any lighted cigarette, cigar, or any other flaming or glowing substance from your car on any street or highway.
- h. Any person who goes for sightseeing purposes to the scene of a disaster where the aid of police, firemen, ambulance crews, or other rescue and emergency services are required, and by so doing, interferes with the essential services at the scene, is guilty of a misdemeanor.
- i. Any person who drops or deposits upon the highway any destructive or injurious material, shall immediately remove the same or cause it to be removed. Littering is also illegal.

DRIVING AT NIGHT

Your speed should always be lowered for night-time driving. You are not as alert after a long day, nor do you see so well. The steady hum of the motor tends to lull you to sleep. But wide awake driving is really needed at night, when your driving view is limited by darkness. Experts agree on the following rules for safer night-time driving.

- Headlights must be used whenever a motor vehicle is being operated on a highway or adjacent shoulder from 1 hour before sunrise, or at any other time there isn't sufficient light. It is illegal to drive with only your parking lights on. If you think parking lights are called for, then use headlights. Parking lights are for parking ONLY.
- Keep your headlights properly adjusted so that the lower beams are not aimed upward.
- Keep your windshield clean.
- When you meet an oncoming car, you must lower your headlight beams (dim your lights) within 500 feet of the approaching motorist.
- Slow down when facing the glare from approaching headlights.
- Avoid looking directly into the lights of the cars you are meeting. Instead, watch the edge of the roadway on your right.
- Lower your beams (dim your lights) when following another vehicle within 300 feet.

- Lower your headlights when you are driving on well-lighted streets.
- Use your lower beams when driving in a fog and reduce your speed. Driving with your bright lights in fog is like shining a light into a mirror: the reflection of light blinds you.
- Be sure that you can stop whenever necessary within the distance you can see clearly ahead, and watch continually and carefully for pedestrians and animals along the roadside.

CONTROLLING YOUR CAR IN AN EMERGENCY

It is important to anticipate emergencies by knowing exactly what to do, for there isn't much time to consider the situation. Here are a few helpful tips:

- *Tire Blow Out* - Don't slam on the brakes. Keep a firm grip on the steering wheel, steer straight ahead, and slow down gradually to a stop.
- *Rear Wheel Skid* - Don't brake suddenly. Turn your steering wheel in the direction of the skid, and as the car begins to straighten out, bring the front wheels into line.
- *Accelerator Pedal Jams* - Put your gears in neutral or turn off the ignition.
- *Right Wheels off Pavement* - Don't try to pull sharply back onto the pavement. Steer straight ahead slowing gradually until you can pull safely back onto the road.
- *Collision Unavoidable* - Turn off your ignition. While braking, attempt to steer away from rigid objects.
- *Car Coming at you* - If a car approaches on the wrong side of the road, the driver may be asleep, drowsy, inattentive, ill, drugged, or drunk. Warn him with your horn and pull to the right as far as possible - even into a ditch or field if necessary!

WHAT TO DO IN CASE OF AN ACCIDENT

(The Government of Guam requires that all vehicles be insured)

If you have an accident, you are required to:

- a. Stop and properly identify yourself to the other party. Leaving the scene of an accident where property damage has occurred is a MISDEMEANOR. If personal injury has resulted, it is a FELONY to leave the scene.
- b. If the property damage exceed \$100 or an injury has resulted, you should contact the police immediately; the law gives you a 24-hour period in which

to report the accident.

- c. You are also required to report the accident within 10 working days from the time the police report has been completed to the Dept. of Revenue and Taxation if the damage exceeds \$250.00 or someone has been injured.

DRIVING UNDER THE INFLUENCE OF INTOXICATING BEVERAGES

Drinking and driving is responsible for at least half of the traffic deaths on Guam highways. The following laws are strictly enforced by the **Guam Police Department**:

Section 9104

- a. Every person who, while under the influence of intoxicating liquor, drives or is in actual physical control of any vehicle is guilty of a **Misdemeanor** and shall be punished hereinafter provided.
In practice, any person suspected of being under the influence while operating a motor vehicle will be subject to a blood alcohol test given by a qualified technician.
- b. Every person who is convicted of a violation shall be punished by imprisonment for not less than 48 hours nor more than 1 year and a fine of not less than \$1,000.00 nor more than \$5,000.00 or by both. Such fine and imprisonment, and the privilege of such person to operate a motor vehicle shall be suspended by the court for not less than 6 months.
- c. On a second or subsequent conviction within a period of 5 years, he shall be punished by imprisonment for not less than 7 days nor more than 2 years and by a fine of not less than \$2,000.00 nor more than \$5,000.00. The privilege to operate a motor vehicle shall be suspended for 1 year.
- d. Any person convicted of a violation offense occurring within 5 years of 2 separate convictions of a violation or of 2 separate convictions of a prior offense. As defined in Section 18101(C), that person shall be guilty of a felony of the third degree imprisoned for not less than 90 days and not more than 5 years and by a fine of not less than \$3,000.00 nor more than \$5,000.00. The privilege to operate a motor vehicle shall be revoked for a period of not less than 2 years.

Section 9105 Drinking in a Motor Vehicle

Every person who drinks or consumes any alcoholic beverages, as defined by Section 25004 of the Government Code of Guam, in motor vehicle shall be guilty of a Misdemeanor.

SECTION III

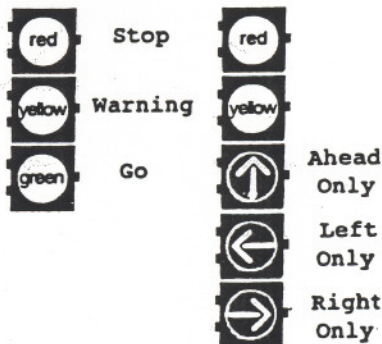
Traffic Signal Lights

A **Red** light means “Stop” until the green light appears.

A **Yellow** light means “Warning” and tells you that the red signals is about to appear. When you see the yellow, you should stop your vehicle, if you can do so without danger to other cars, and wait for the green light before starting. A flashing yellow light means “Slow Down” and proceed with caution.

A **Green** light means “Go”, but you must allow any vehicles remaining in the intersection to go through before you may move ahead.

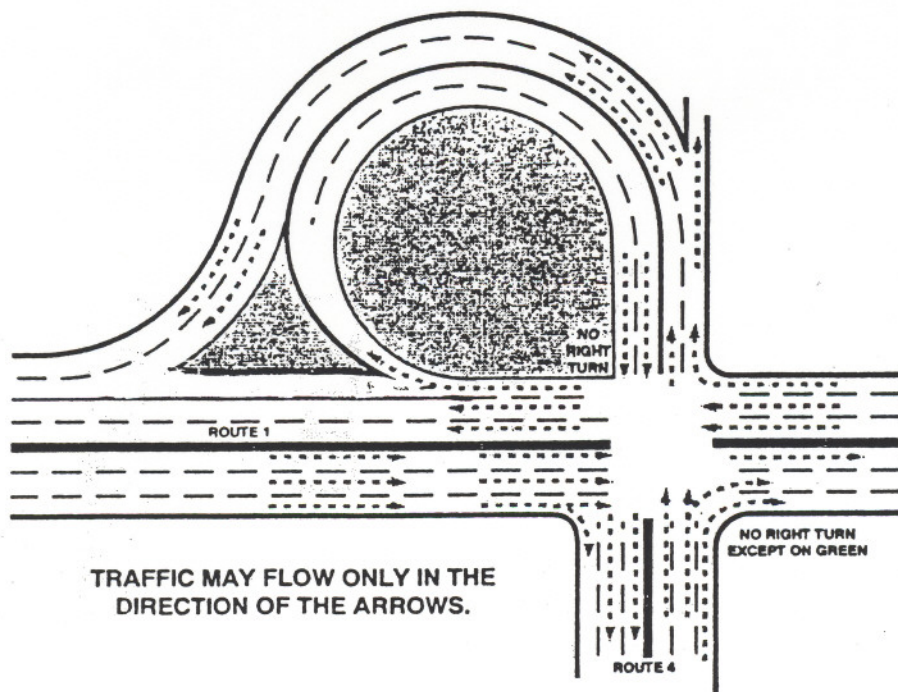
A **Green Arrow** permits the motorist to proceed in the indicated direction without interference from oncoming traffic.



Regardless of the traffic signal, you must always yield the right of way to any pedestrians or other vehicles already in the intersection.

AGANA'S FAMOUS "LOOP"

The intersection of Route 1 (Marine Drive) and Route 4



Section IV ROAD SIGNS

Every traffic sign has a definite shape and color which announces its purpose. Each is placed to help you and to instruct you in the best and safest use of the highway. All signs must be obeyed at all times unless a policeman or other traffic officer directs you to do otherwise.

Some signs are being changed for national and international uniformity and you will find both types in use on some highways of Guam. New and old signs are indicated below.

Color is significant:

Red = Stop or prohibition of an action

Yellow = Warning

White and Black = Regulatory signs or geographic indications: Speed limits, City limits, etc.

Orange = Construction or maintenance warning.

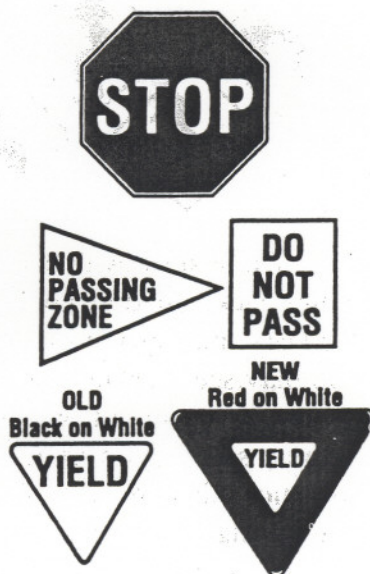
Shapes have meaning:

Octagon (8 sides) = **Stop**: Always red with white letters. This sign is the only 8-sided traffic sign; it always means "danger and tells you that you are approaching a street or highway where you must bring your car to a complete stop, not entering the crosswalk zone. If you cannot see in all directions clearly, you may cautiously proceed further until you can determine that it's safe to drive ahead or turn.

Pennant - No passing Zone: Yellow with black letters. It is located on the left side of the road and points to the beginning of a no-passing solid-line pavement marking. The pennant is used in addition to the black and white **DO NOT PASS** sign.

Wedge = **Yield** The yield sign requires you to give the right of way to other vehicles which have entered the intersection or are approaching on the roadway so close as to be hazardous (Section 3325).

Diamond = **Warning**: Yellow with black letters. These describe road conditions and hazards ahead or give Notice of changes in the highway which you must be Alert for in order to proceed safely.



CROSSROAD SIGNS



**4-Way
Intersection
Ahead**



**Crossroad
Ahead on
Right**



**Crossroad
Ahead on
Left**

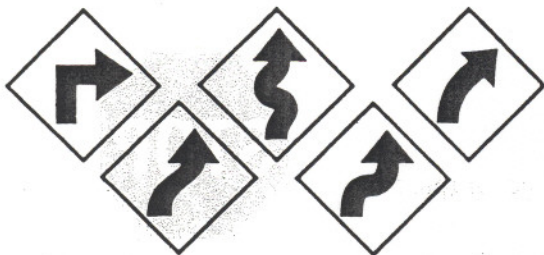


**Road Ends,
You Must Turn
Left or Right**

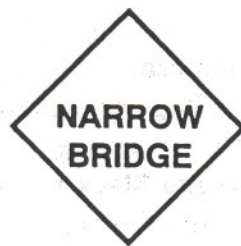


**"Y" Intersection
Ahead**

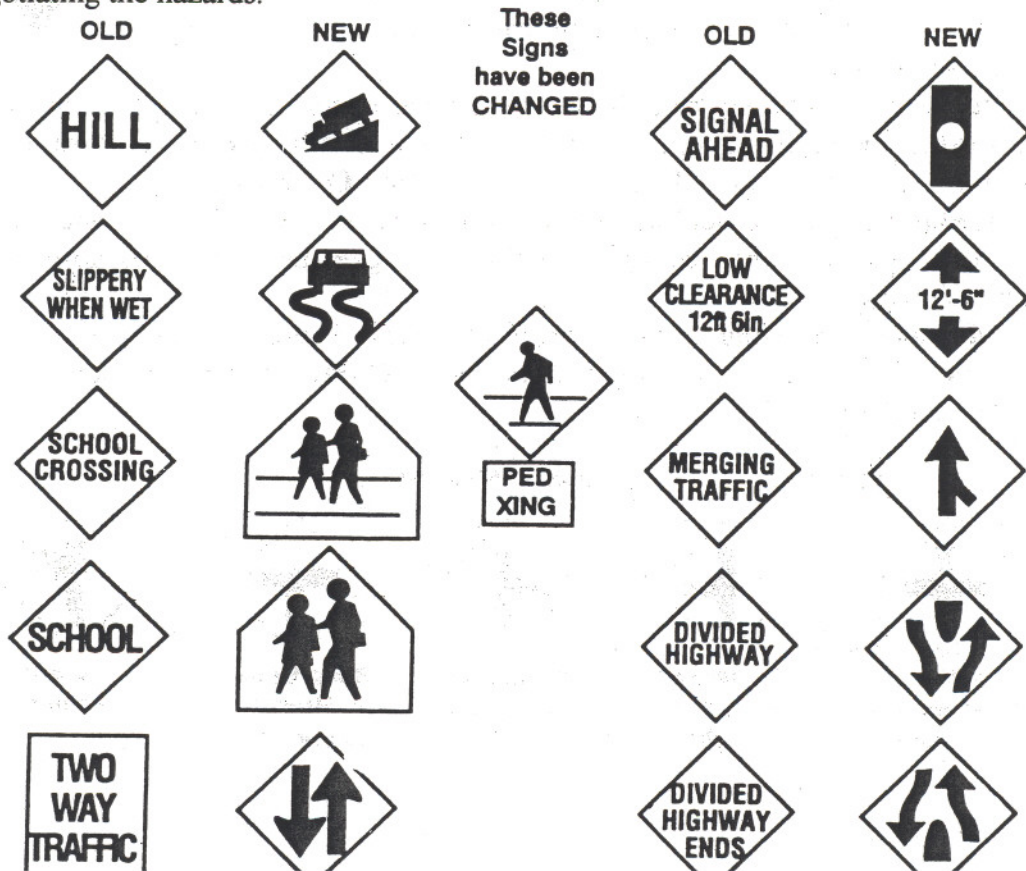
TURN, CURVE and WINDING ROAD Signs



These signs with black symbols on a yellow background are used to warn motorists of twists and turns in the roadways ahead. You may see a small rectangular sign just below the diamond which indicates the highest safe speed under the best road conditions that you can use in successfully negotiating the hazards.

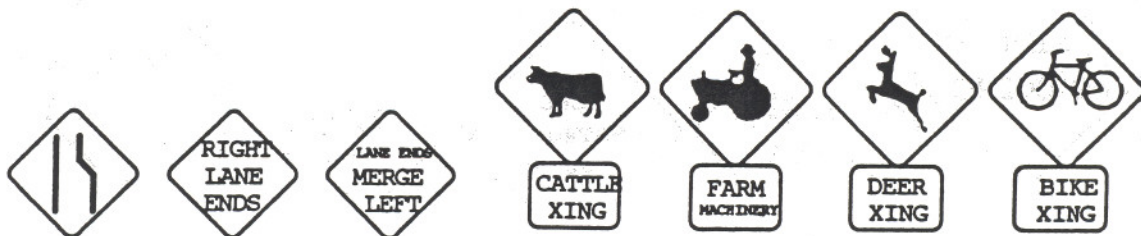


This sign tells you that the bridge ahead is too narrow to be crossed safely at average speeds; you must slow down and drive cautiously across.



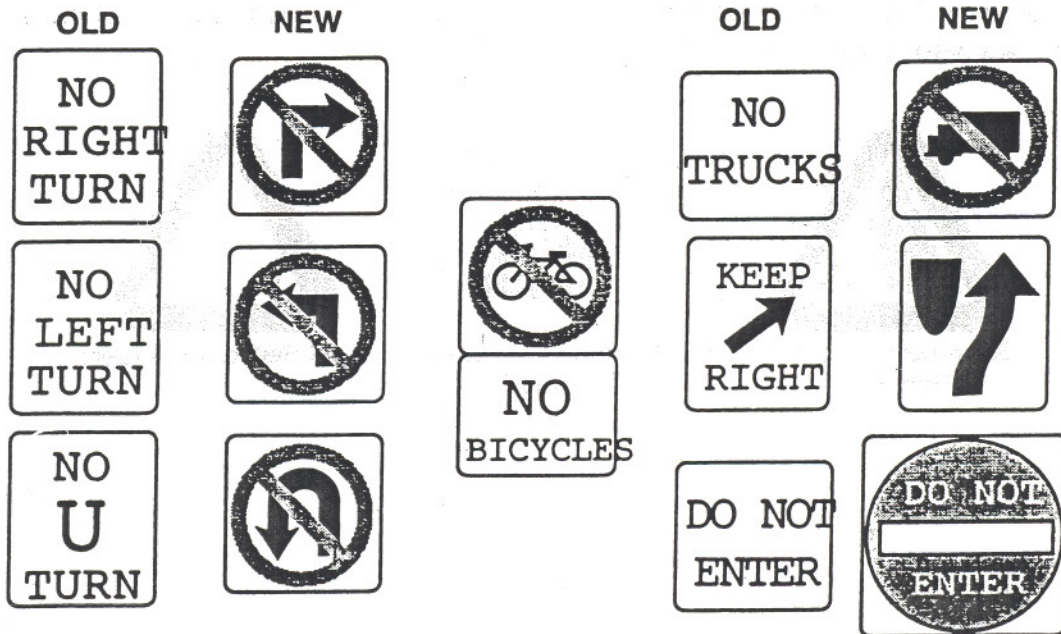
ADDITIONAL WARNING SIGNS

(Black symbols on a yellow background)



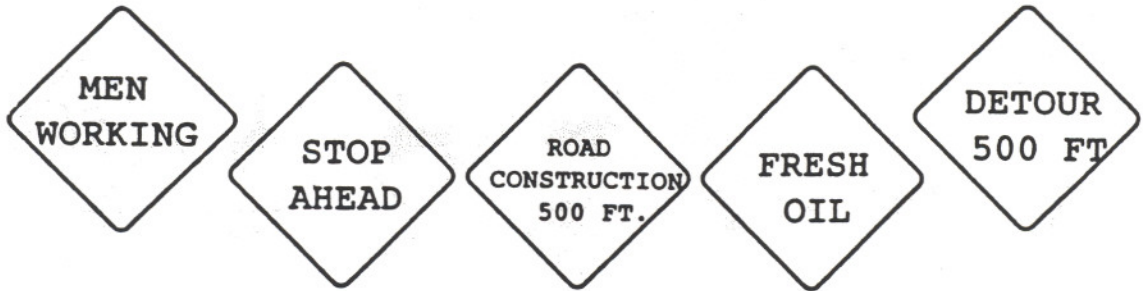
RECTANGLE = Traffic Regulations: White with black letters.

The Speed Limit sign remains unchanged, but some of the new signs have a red circle with a red diagonal line across them which means prohibition ("NO").



COMMON CONSTRUCTION SIGNS

Black lettering on Orange Background



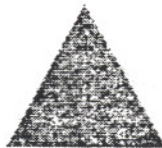
GUIDE SIGNS = Identification of places: Black and white or green and white. These signs often have reflectorized letters and figures and tell the motorist names of places, mileage distances, highway identification numbers, city limits, junctions, etc.

SLOW MOVING VEHICLE EMBLEM

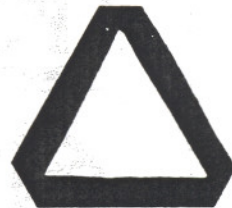
You may see one of these emblems on slow-moving vehicles such as farm tractors, horse drawn vehicles, machinery, or construction equipment. During daylight the bright fluorescent orange solid triangle in center of the SMV emblem is highly visible and at night glows brilliantly in the path of approaching headlights. **Watch out** for this sign and **Slow down** before passing this vehicle.



Slow-moving Vehicle
Emblem Kit

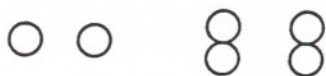


Orange Fluorescent
Center



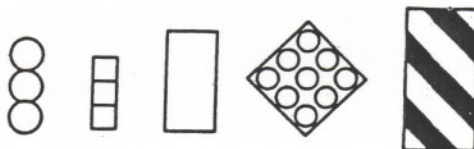
Red Reflective Borders

REFLECTIVE DELINEATORS



Reflective delineators outline the edge of the roadways. Single delineators designate roadways and ramps while double delineators are for change of speed lanes used for entering and leaving freeways.

OBJECT MARKERS



Object markers of various shapes outline hazardous obstructions along the roadside such as traffic islands, bridge end posts and piers.

Section V

BICYCLES & MOPEDS

Registration:

Moped are required to be licensed under local law. You must be at least 18 years old to legally operate a moped on a public highway or road.

Rules of the Road:

When you are riding a bicycle or mope on a public roadway, you are subject to the same rules and regulations as drivers of motor vehicles. You must obey all traffic signs and signals, yield the right-of-way to pedestrians, and signal your intent to turn.

Safe Driving Tips:

- Moped and bicycle riders are reminded to ride single file WITH the traffic at all times.
- Be sure to watch for car doors which may suddenly open and block your path.
- It's safest for riders to get off and walk across busy intersections and bridges.
- Avoid chuckholes and "jumping" curbs. You may lose control and damage your wheels.

Many of the islands drains are covered with grates whose bars lie parallel to the traffic flow and are widely set. Watch out for these as they are a terrible hazard to bikes and mopeds.

SECTION VI

REGISTRATION AND INSPECTION OF VEHICLES

1. General Requirements

It is against the law to move or drive any vehicle, of a type that is required to be registered, upon any Guam highway until it has been registered and the appropriate fee has been paid. The law states that motor vehicles, trailers, semi-trailers, pole or pipe dollies and auxiliary dollies must be registered. The law also applies to motorcycles and motor driven cycles (mopeds).

A vehicle left parked or standing on a public street or highway must be currently registered whether it is in current operation or not.

2. Registration and Ownership Cards

When a vehicle is registered in Guam, the department issues an ownership certificate to the legal owner and a registration card to the registered owner. The law requires that this registration card be displayed in on the vehicle where it may be read when the car is unoccupied. (The steering post is the usual place for it to be displayed). In case your registration card or ownership certificate is lost, stolen or destroyed, you must apply for another, with a fee of \$1.00 per duplicate.

3. License Plates and Stickers

Two license plate or stickers will be issued upon registration. The plates should be securely fastened to the front and rear of the vehicle so as to prevent them from swinging, and they must be a minimum of twelve inches from the ground, in a clearly visible position.

4. Renewal of Registration

Your vehicle registration is required to be renewed every year, the date falling on the month sticker, located on the top left hand corner of your license plate.

5. Vehicle Inspection

The law requires that all vehicles registered in Guam undergo a government inspection every year for a \$7.00 fee. The mechanical aspects of your car are tested and judged for safety. If parts are found to be defective, repairs must be done immediately.

DRIVING UNDER THE INFLUENCE

Drinking under the influence of alcoholic beverages or controlled substances is responsible for at least half of the traffic deaths on Guam highways. The following laws are strictly enforced by the Guam Police Department:

Chapter 18 Safe Streets Act

- a. Every person who, while under the influence of intoxicating liquor or controlled substances, who drives or is in actual physical control of any vehicle is guilty of a Misdemeanor.
- b. Any person who operates a motor vehicle on the public highways or roadways of Guam shall be deemed to have given consent to a blood, urine or breath test for the purpose of determining the alcohol or controlled substance content of the person's blood or urine.
- c. Refusal to submit to a blood, urine or breath test will result in the following:
 - the person must immediately surrender his or her driver's license to the officer;
 - the officer will take custody of the license and will forward it to the Department of Revenue and Taxation, Motor Vehicle Division, along with the officer's sworn statement, affidavit or written declaration and;
 - the driver's license will not be returned and driving privileges restored until the completion of all administrative and court proceedings have been ordered by the Director of Revenue and Taxation or the courts.
- d. Every person who is convicted of a violation shall be punished by imprisonment for not less than 48 hours nor more than 1 year and a fine of not less than \$1,000.00 nor more than \$5,000.00 or by both. Such fine and imprisonment, and the privilege of such person to operate a motor vehicle shall be suspended by the court not less than 6 months.
- e. On a second or subsequent conviction within a period of 5 years, he shall be punished by imprisonment for not less than 7 days nor more than 2 years and by a fine of not less than \$2,000.00 nor more than \$5,000.00. The privilege to operate a motor vehicle shall be suspended for 1 year.
- f. Any person convicted of a violation offense occurring within 5 years of 2 separate convictions of a violation or of 2 separate convictions of a prior offense. As defined in Section 18101(c), that person shall be guilty of a felony of the third degree imprisoned for not less than 90 days and not more than 5 years and by a fine of not less than \$3,000.00 nor more than \$5,000.00. The privilege to operate a motor vehicle shall be revoked for a period of not less than 2 years.
- g. Any person who drinks any alcoholic beverage or consumes a controlled substance while in a motor vehicle upon a highway shall be guilty of a misdemeanor.